Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117051
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 ACDA-12
/061 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/EWT/BRFURNESS:TLW
APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT/RPRACHT
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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117051

USOECD, EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, UK, US, PL

SUBJECT: US CRYSTAL GROWTH SYSTEM TO POLAND - IL 1355

REF: A) COCOM DOC (78) 61; B) PARIS 14250

1. DEPARTMENT OFFICER DISCUSSED APPARENT UK INTENTION TO HOLD US CASE (REF A) HOSTAGE TO US DECISION ON UK CRYSTAL PULLERS (REFERRED TO REF B) WITH UK EMBASSY HERE IN CONTEXT OF US OFFER FOR CONSULTATION ON UK MSR-2 CRYSTAL GROWTH SYSTEMS. DEPARTMENT OFFICER NOTED INFORMAL INDICATIONS THAT UK DECISION ON US CASE WAS PENDING OUR DECISION ON THEIRS, INDICATING THAT:

US HAS DEALT IN GOOD FAITH WITH UK ON STRATEGIC CONCERNS STEMMING FROM ABILITY OF MSR-2 CRYSTAL PULLERS TO GROW GALLIUM ARSENIDE AND OTHER III-V COMPOUNDS;

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PAGE 02 STATE 117051

WE HAVE NOT TABLED A POSITION IN COCOM ON THE UK CASES BECAUSE OF OUR PROMISE TO CONSULT FULLY WITH THE UK ON OUR CONCERNS, NOT BECAUSE WE HAVE INSUFFICIENT RATIONALE TO JUSTIFY A DECISION;

WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO CONSULTATION (EMBASSY INFORMED US THAT UK REPRESENTATIVE WILL COME FOR TALKS AT DATE TO BE

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ARRANGED LATER) BUT IF OUR DECISION IS NECESSARY TO HAVE US CASE CONSIDERED, WE ARE PERFECTLY PREPARED TO TABLE A DECISION (EMBASSY PERFECTLY AWARE THAT DECISION WOULD BE NEGATIVE); AND

TECHNICALLY, WE CONSIDER US CASE VERY DIFFERENT FROM UK MSR-2 CRYSTAL GROWTH SYSTEMS BUT SIMILAR TO GERMAN CRYSTAL PULLERS WHICH US HAD APPROVED SOME TIME AGO.

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2. DEPARTMENT OFFICER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT UK COULD ACCELERATE ITS CONSIDERATION OF US CASE ON TECHNICAL MERITS.

3. UK EMBASSY OFFICER (BURNE) SAID THAT HE WOULD RELAY MESSAGE TO LONDON. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT UK WOULD ACCEPT US PROPOSAL FOR TECHNICAL MEETING ON MSR-2 SYSTEM. ALSO, UK AUTHORITIES HAD DECLINED TO TAKE UK CRYSTAL PULLER CASES OFF COCOM AGENDA PENDING OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS.

4. FOR PARIS: US DEL REQUESTED TO INFORM UK DEL OF TENOR OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH UK EMBASSY HERE. IF UK PERSISTS IN WITHHOLDING ITS POSITION ON MERITS OF US CASE, WE WOULD FEEL IT NECESSARY TO TABLE FORMAL OBJECTION TO UK CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 117051

CASES, DRAWING ON TECHNICAL EVALUATION CONTAINED IN ATTACHMENTS TO FURNESS-BURNE APRIL 20 LETTER (BEING POUCHED). VANCE

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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, EXPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE117051
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TLW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780195-0817
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780581/aaaacrpv.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 96d1b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 14250
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2759151
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US CRYSTAL GROWTH SYSTEM TO POLAND - IL 1355
TAGS: ESTC, UK, US, PL, COCOM
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96d1b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014